

PFAFFTOWN CHRISTIAN CHURCH RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

3323 Transou Rd.

PO Box 130

Pfafftown NC 27040

Phone: 336-924-9925 Fax: 336-924-2501

E-mail: office@pfafftownchristian.org

www.pfafftownchristian.org

Church Staff

Rev. Rodney Stilwell

Minister

Rev. Tim Shoaf

Minister of Music & Programs

Traci Canter

Office Administrator

Nonprofit Org
US Postage
PAID
Pfafftown NC
Permit #2



May

THE VISITOR

2026

A NOTE FROM RODNEY

I want to thank everyone - each of you has been so kind concerning my recent health challenges. Your prayers, concern, and understanding have all blessed me every day. As I write this I am about to finish the radiation treatments and will remain on meds for another 16 months. The doctors are hopeful that this will be all I need to recover. I've planned to hike a little this summer.

A few weeks ago, I asked the oncologist why I had to remain on the meds for so long. They give me hot flashes, fatigue, and extra weight. He said, "I'm not concerned so much about your short-term comfort. I want you to be around and healthy in 5 years." That perspective struck me.

Sometimes we go through struggles to shape us for something even greater. God understands this. But they are "short-term." He is more concerned about our long-term character than our short-term comfort.

1 Peter 5:10-11, reminds us. "So keep a firm grip on the faith. The suffering won't last forever. It won't be long before this generous God who has great plans for us in Christ—eternal and glorious plans they are!—will have you put together and on your feet for good. He gets the last word; yes, He does."

AMEN to that! *Rodney*



**THURSDAY,
MAY 7th**

"Glorify God Among the Nations, Seeking Him in All Generations"

Please check your local community for prayer activities. The town of Rural Hall will host a community prayer service led by local pastors with a free lunch at **noon** on **Thursday, May 7** at the Rural Hall Town Hall (located at 4232 Bethania-Rural Hall Road in Rural Hall)

I Chronicles 16:24 - Tell of His glory among the nations, His wonderful deed among all the peoples."



Sunday, May 24 is Pentecost Sunday. It is celebrated 50 days after Easter Sunday and commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles. It is also known as the "birthday of the church as it celebrates empowerment, unity and a divine connection of language and culture.

This event found in Acts, specifically Acts 2:1-4, forever changed the followers of Jesus. Following the resurrection and ascension of Jesus, Jerusalem was filled with people from many different nations. Jesus' followers were gathered in a room in Jerusalem. They were waiting for the gift that Jesus had promised them. Suddenly, a sound like a mighty, rushing wind filled the house. The followers then saw what looked like tongues of fire resting on each person. They were filled with the Holy Spirit and immediately they began to speak in different languages. This miraculous event was transformative as it took a group of frightened, uncertain followers and turned them into bold leaders who publicly shared their faith.

Pentecost celebrates the gift of the Holy Spirit and for Christians, the Holy Spirit represents God's ongoing, active presence in the world and in our lives. The Spirit provides believers with empowerment for faith, daily guidance, and the courage to live a Christian filled life while telling others the story of Jesus Christ, the Savior. Come and celebrate Pentecost Sunday with us on **Sunday, May 24th at 11:00 a.m.**

Acts 1:8 ~ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."



Come and experience worshipping the Savior together!

Every Sunday at 11:00 A.M.

We would love to have you!

FOOD x FELLOWSHIP x FAITH



TASTE & SEE
Bible Study Luncheon
Wednesday, May 13
11:30 AM

If you have never joined us before, we sure would love for you to! This short time together is such a wonderful way to study God's word over a delicious, simple lunch with your church friends!



CWF NEWS

We will continue to work on blankets at our **May 19th Meeting at 1:00 pm** in the **Upper Fellowship Hall**. Please bring a pair of sharp scissors when you come. Judy Gillespie will head up this wonderful workshop.

All church members are welcome to attend. These blankets will be distributed to the homeless by the Cover the City Project through the following organizations in Winston Salem: WS Rescue Mission, Bethesda Center and Salvation Army Center of Hope.



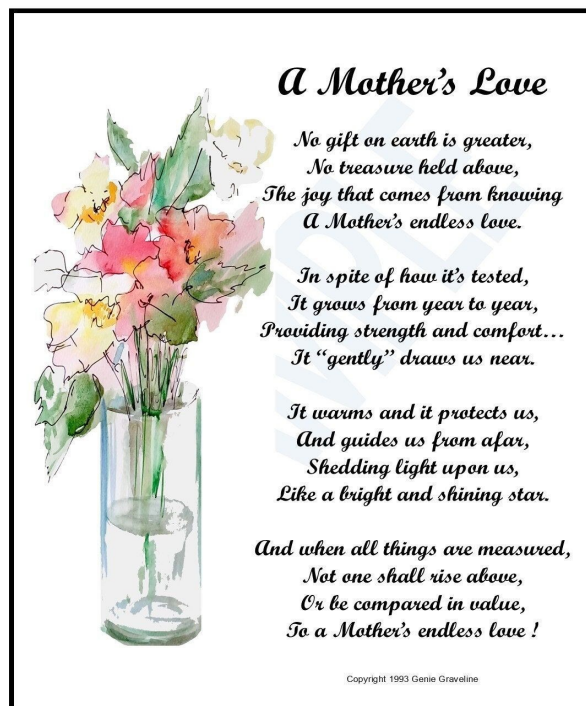
The next Christian Men's Breakfast will be held on **Tuesday, May 19, 9:00 AM** at **Mama Zoe's Restaurant** Reynolda Road. in **Winston-Salem.**

May Worship Leaders

Elder: Mrs. Betty Simpson

Elder Backup:
Mrs. Lynda Bryant

Communion:
Mr. Paul Shropshire



A Mother's Love

*No gift on earth is greater,
No treasure held above,
The joy that comes from knowing
A Mother's endless love.*

*In spite of how it's tested,
It grows from year to year,
Providing strength and comfort...
It "gently" draws us near.*

*It warms and it protects us,
And guides us from afar,
Shedding light upon us,
Like a bright and shining star.*

*And when all things are measured,
Not one shall rise above,
Or be compared in value,
To a Mother's endless love!*

Copyright 1993 Genie Graveline



The Crisis Control gift for the month of May is **Baked Beans** (Pork & Beans, Beane Weenees, etc.) Thank you to everyone that continues to support this local, vital ministry.



Thank you to **EVERYONE** that donated, helped, and shopped at our Spring PCC Yard Sale! It was so much fun and it was a big success. We were able to raise \$2000 with more monies still trickling in. Thank you again!

Notes from Tim

Hymn Story "The Holy City"

On Palm Sunday during the morning worship service, I played "The Holy City" (*Jerusalem*) as an instrumental solo on the piano. Several of you commented that this is among one of your favorite piano selections during the Easter season and inquired about the history and inspirational story behind this beautiful hymn.

"The Holy City" was written in 1892, with lyrics by Frederic Weatherly and music composed by Michael Maybrick, (who used the pseudonym Stephen Adams for his musical works). Weatherly was an attorney and prolific songwriter, while Maybrick was a well-known composer in Victorian England. The music for this hymn became widely celebrated for its devotional and spiritually revealing quality and became one of the most popular hymns in the UK and US at the turn of the 20th century.

The song's three-part vision follows a *prophetic dream* of Jerusalem's spiritual history:

Triumphal Entry – The dreamer visualizes Jesus entering Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, greeted by crowds singing *Hosanna* as the angels also joyfully respond in chorus.

Crucifixion – The scene shifts to Good Friday, with the *shadow of a cross* appearing, marking the cost of salvation.

New Jerusalem – The dream ends in a vision of the eternal city of heavenly peace and harmony inspired by Isaiah 2:4 and Isaiah 11:6-9, *where all the world might enter in.*

Following, are the words Weatherly penned when he awoke the next morning:

*Last night as I lay sleeping, there came a dream so fair
I stood in old Jerusalem beside the temple there
I heard the children singing and ever as they sang
I thought the voice of angels from heaven in answer rang.*

*And then my dream was changed the streets no longer rang.
Hushed were the glad hosannas the little children sang.
The sun grew dark with mystery, the morn was cold and
chill as a shadow of a cross arose upon the lonely hill.*

*And once again the scene was changed new earth there
seemed to be. I saw the holy city beside the tideless sea.
The light of God was on its streets, the gates were opened
wide, and all who would might enter and no one was denied,
no need of moon or stars by night, nor sun to shine by day.
It was the new Jerusalem that would not pass away.*

*Jerusalem, Jerusalem! Sing for the night is o'er!
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna forevermore!*

Blessings to each of you, *Tim*

Prayer Requests

Church Family: Owen Clodfelter (great grandson of Steve & Betty Clodfelter), Bobby Joe "BJ" Carmichael, Jack Groff, Helen Johnson, Evelyn Nifong, Jo Poplin, Doug Ramsey, Sue Terry, Betty Tilley, Julie Tilley

Others:

Ken Barker: Friend of Rodney & Beth Stilwell
Faye Fincher: Jill Robertson's Aunt
Carol Jean Hartman: Friend of the Fletcher's
Isaiah Johnson: Great-Grandson of Helen Johnson

Cayden Kingsbury: Grandson of Rodney & Beth Stilwell

Sue Miles: Friend of Jo Stanley
Ryan Platz: Friend of Cliff & Kitty Hunt
Jan Ritchie: Sister of Jo Stanley
Wes Snuffer: Son of Ed Snuffer
Darlene Stewart: Sister of Ann Fletcher
Heather Stokes: Niece of Jill Robertson
Joy Stokes: Sister of Jill Robertson
Mike Stokes: Friend of Pam Backi
Shay Whitehead: Daughter of Steve & Betty Clodfelter

Jean Wilkens: Friend of Shawn Widmyer

Please call the church office to add or remove someone's name from the Prayer List. This will assist us in keeping our prayer concerns updated. in our bulletin and newsletter publications.

THANK YOU

We honor the memory of service members
and their families who have sacrificed
to protect the freedom we enjoy.

Celebrating Memorial Day